



Hints from the Model Garage



A coat of clear acrylic sprayed on license plates will preserve the painted surfaces and keep them looking new—even over several years of use required in some states. The acrylic is also useful for protecting chrome and damp-proofing wires.



Chains won't tangle or rattle in the trunk if you roll them in a strip of burlap. Cut the burlap slightly wider and longer than the chain, and lay the chain out flat before rolling. Heavy rubber bands will keep the rolls intact.

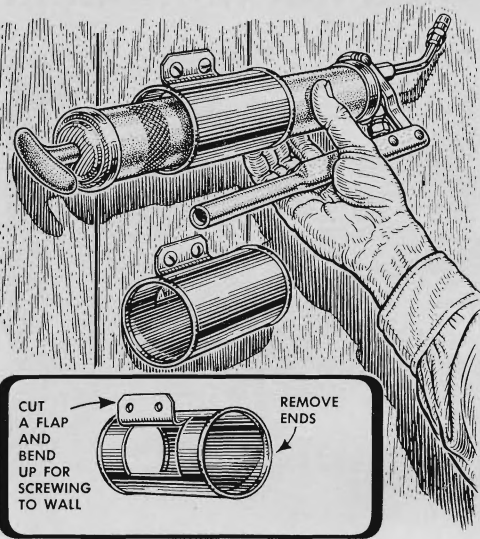


A good way to carry sand for emergency use on ice and snow is in a one-gallon can. Several cans are easy to stow compactly, and sand can't sift through as it sometimes does in bags. Pouring the sand where you need it is easier, too.

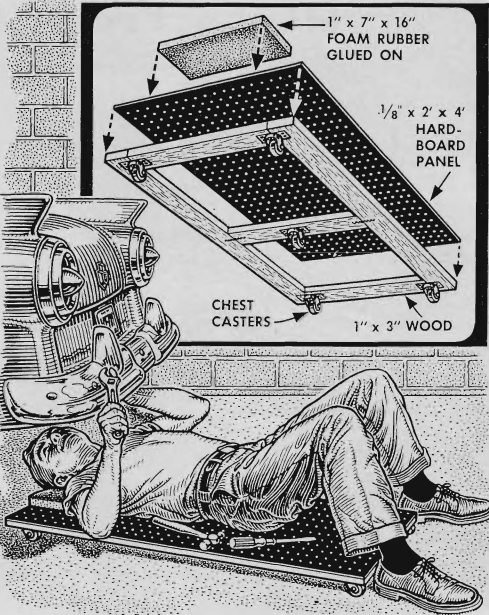


For a handy quick-cleaner around a car, try baking soda. A little sprinkled on a damp cloth will quickly remove gasoline stains around the filler cap, take off road-tar spots and spattered insects, and clean and neutralize battery acids.

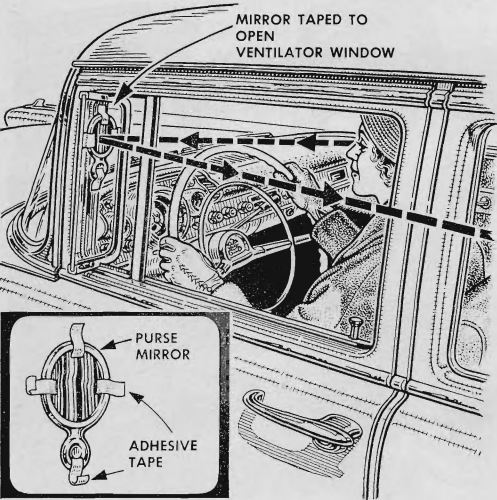
More Hints from the Model Garage



Storing a grease gun, calking gun and many other car and home tools is easy in racks made from discarded tin cans. Remove both ends and cut out a flap in the center of the can. Bend the flap outward and screw it to the wall as shown.



You can build this creeper for about \$4.50, and the investment in comfort will soon be repaid when working under your car. For the frame, join one-by-threes with corrugated fasteners. Cover with perforated hardboard and add casters.



If rearward vision is blocked when hauling furniture or bulky packages, a small hand mirror taped to the outer edge of the vent window on the driver's side will enable you to see. Swing the window to bring the mirror into seeing position.



For scraping snow or frost from the windshield, stow a plastic tile in the glove compartment. The tile has four sharp edges that will quickly clear the glass without scratching it, and, being flexible, the tile will bend to fit the curves.